



Defense mechanisms

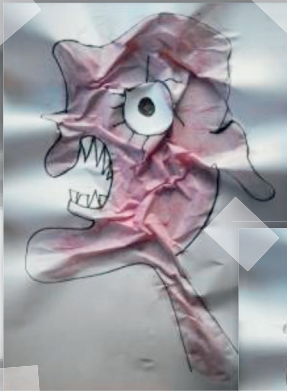
Before it all started there was just a screwed up mess.

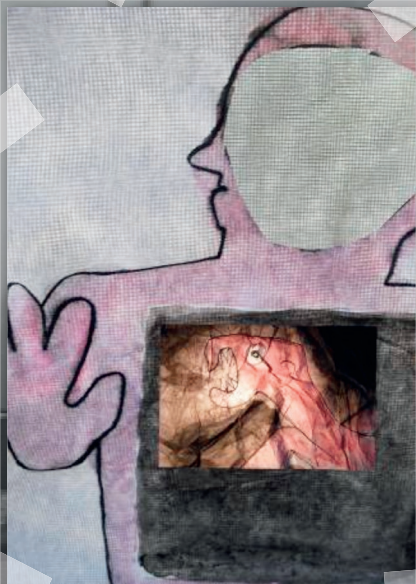
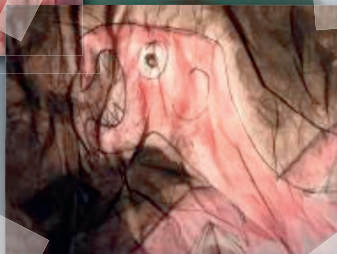
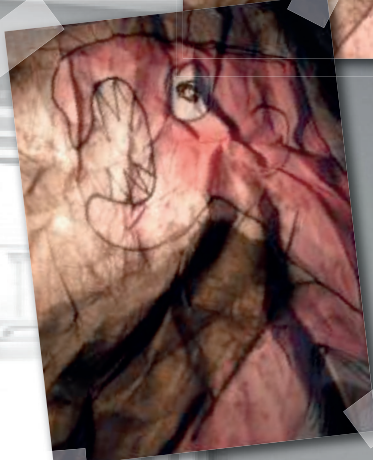
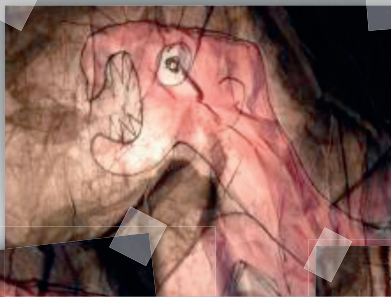


First of all it became clear that what was screwed up (or what were screwed up, there seemed to be a few of them), to be honest, either wasn't (or weren't) very friendly



*(sometimes not friendly
at all in fact)*

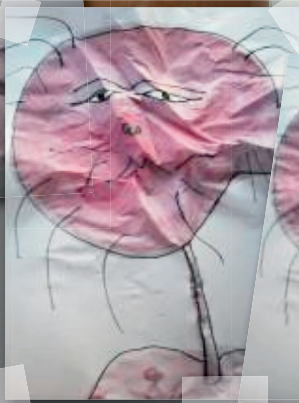




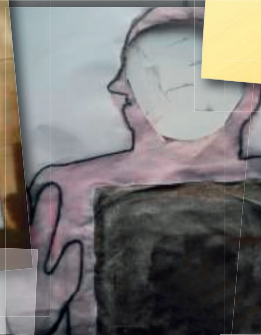
Either that or it (or rather they) felt rather jaded.



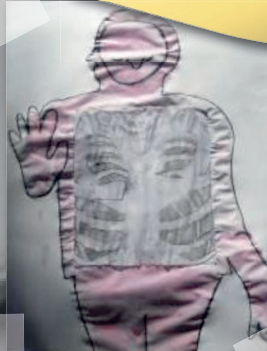
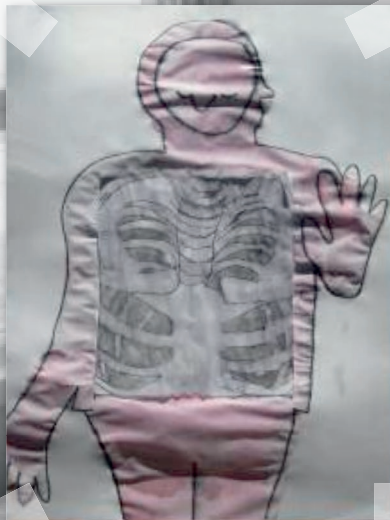
Trying to ignore it all (or them all) and just get on (or get up or somewhere at least) didn't help - but at least there was still just getting on getting on. Yet gradually a sadness grew inside (just one) that felt more honest (bless).



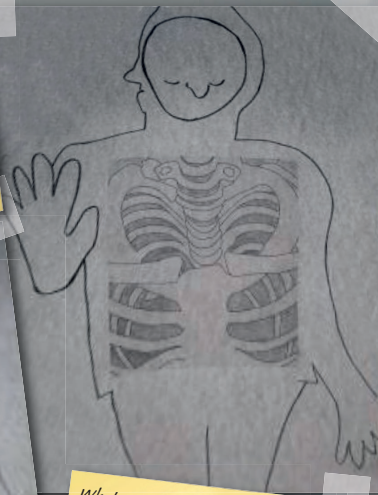
And although at times (well,
quite a lot of the times) the
feelings cringed (and crinkled)
somewhat, on some levels (or
were they rather layers)



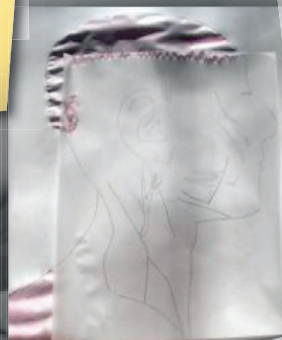
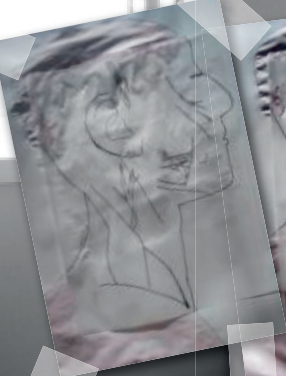
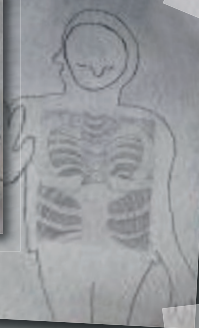
this sadness seemed to be
developing a perspective
of its own (good egg).
It grew until it was watching
every step and stop (flip-flop).



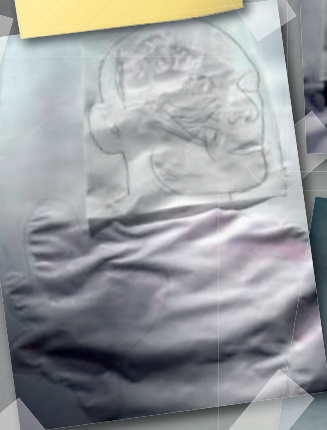
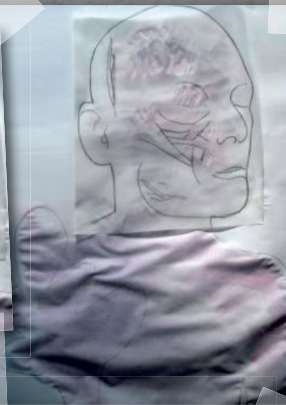
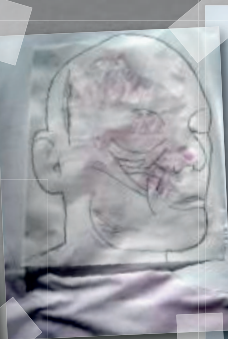
Then one day it seemed as though a light had switched on inside (and things curiously began to glide).



What was more (deeper even than the floor) there began a healthy disenchantment (in the liberating department). Seeing through the illusions that had previously driven the heart forwards (and then floor-wards) wasn't always comfortable,



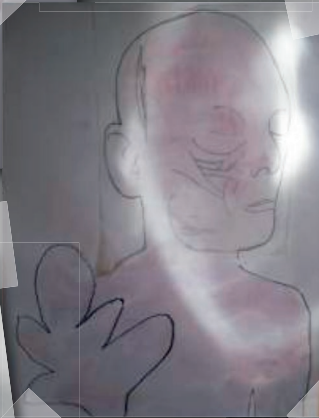
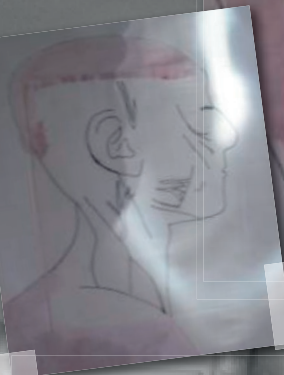
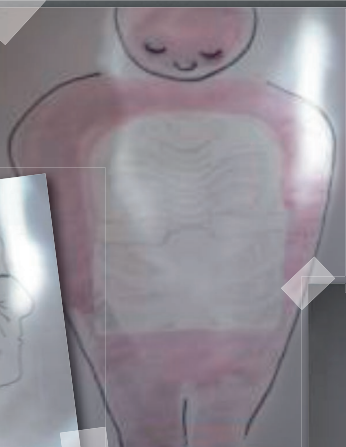
still the feelings (curling like
onion peelings) cringed a bit
sometimes but realised it
wasn't working, to look away
from what was really lurking,
in the heart.



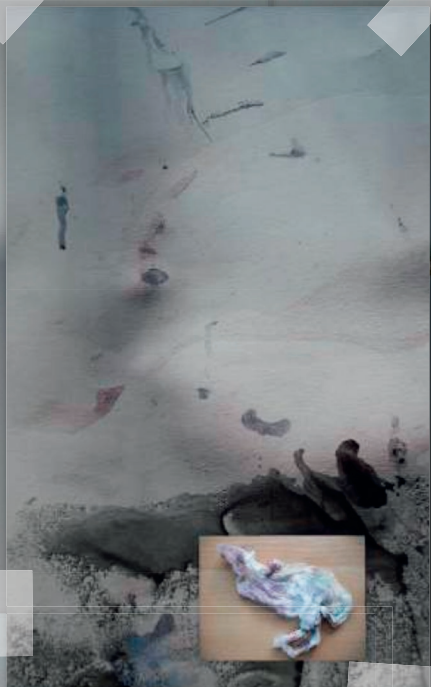
Gradually the gaze, unphased,
settled on the truth, however
uncooth, and the feelings
relaxed.



Another new light seemed to
come and shine (how divine!)
and although there was still a
bit of trouble and strife to be
mopped up in life, here



and there,



*there didn't seem to be the
stress or mess of needing
to hide or defend anything.
There was instead
a completely new kind
of happiness.*





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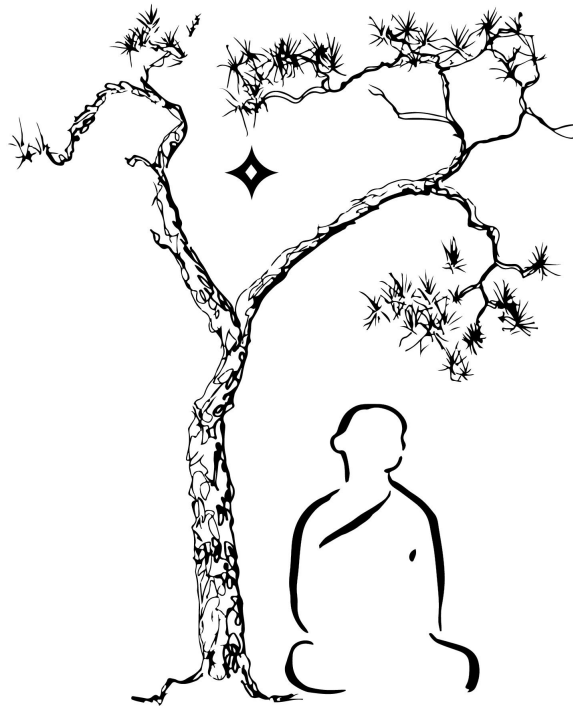
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